

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15

STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 L-02 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

INT-05 COME-00 AEC-05 FEAE-00 OPIC-03 XMB-02 OES-03

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FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 280

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEHRAN 1575

FOR DEP ASST SECY SOBER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: USIRJC, IR

SUBJ: US/IRAN JOINT COMMISSION AGREEMENTS

1. MINISTER ECONOMICS AND FINANCE ANSARY PROPOSED TO UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON CONSULSION OF AGREEMENTS DURING OR IMMEDIATELY BEFORE JOINT COMMISSION MEETING MARCH 3-4 BETWEEN GOI AND PRIVATE US COMPANIES WHICH COULD ULTIMATELY EXCEED \$10 BILLION IN VALUE. HE ALSO PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS FOR FACILITATING US BIDDING ON INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS AND US JOINT VENTURING IN OTHER INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS IDENTIFIED BY JOINT COMMITTEE ON ECONOMICS AND FINANCE. FURTHER DETAILS INCLUDING DECISIONS ON STRUCTURE OF COMMISSION MEETING, COMPOSITION OF IRANIAN DELEGATION, SOCIAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PROCEDURE FOR REACHING TENTATIVE DECISION IN ADVANCE OF MEETING WILL FOLLOW IN SEPTTEL.

2. REQUEST IMMEDIATE ACTION ON FOLLOWING PROJECTS WITH VIEW TO MAKING POSSIBLE GOI ISSUANCE OF LETTERS OF INTENT BEFORE
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CONCLUSION OF JOINT COMMISSION MEETING FOR REFERENCE IN

JOINT COMMISSION PRESS RELEASE:

A. GOI WISHES TO ISSUE LETTER OF INTENT TO URANIUM ENRICHMENT ASSOCIATES FOR PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED GOI FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION IN URANIUM ENRICHMENT PLANT INVESTMENT AND PRODUCT SHARING. ANSARY SUGGESTS BECHTEL URGENTLY SEND REPRESENTATIVE TO TEHRAN TO NEGOTIATE TERMS OF LETTER OF INTENT. PRESUMPTION IS THIS WOULD BREAK LOG-JAM ON CREATION OF UEA.

B. I REQUEST DEPARTMENT CONSIDER AND IF POSSIBLE ADVISE EMBASSY TEHRAN THIS WEEK WHETHER USG PREPARED TO BLESS GOI-SHELL/US JOINT VENTURE EXPORT REFINERY TO SUPPLY US MARKET AND POSSIBLY OTHER MARKETS COUPLED WITH IRANIAN INVESTMENT IN SHELL EAST COAST DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM. ANSARY WISHES TO INCLUDE THIS MAJOR PROJECT IN US/IRAN ECONOMIC COOPERATION PACKAGE ANNOUNCED BY JOINT COMMISSION PRESS RELEASE BUT NEEDS USG JUDGMENT ON THIS TWO-WAY INVESTMENT. SHELL BOARD MEETS TO DECIDE ON THIS PROJECT FEBRUARY 27.

3. FYI: ATTENTION DR. RAY - ANSARY ALSO ADVISED THAT HE PLANS TO ISSUE LETTER OF INTENT TO WESTINGHOUSE TO UNDERTAKE TURNKEY CONSTRUCTION AND STARTUP OF LARGE NUCLEAR POWER AND WATER DESALINATION PLANTS. WESTINGHOUSE TEHRAN REPRESENTATIVE BEING ADVISED CONCURRENTLY. PLEASE DUPLICATE ADVICE WESTINGHOUSE US AND URGE PROMPT CONCLUSION OF NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO PERMIT INCLUSION OF THIS VERY LARGE SET OF PROJECTS IN JOINT COMMISSION ANNOUNCEMENTS.
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